

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
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SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
CINCLANT NORFOLK
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2499

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, MNUC, NPG, DA
SUBJ: CALL ON MOD S0GAARD IN CONNECTION WITH SECDEF BILATERAL
AT NPG MEETING

REF : STATE 93443

1. I CALLED ON MINISTER OF DEFENSE POUL S0GAARD AT NOON TODAY
TO ASCERTAIN THE TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE DANISH SIDE
DURING THE SHORT BILATERAL MEETING WITH SECRETARY BROWN TEN-
TATIVELY SCHEDULED AT 1700 HRS 18 APRIL 1978 IN FREDERIKSHAVN.
I USED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RECALL THE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN
PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN AND SECRETARY BROWN AT BLAIR HOUSE
IN FEBRUARY WHERE THE SUBJECT OF REINFORCEMENTS OF THE NORTHERN
FLANK, AND IN PARTICULAR, COLOCATED OPERATING BASES (COBS),
AND LINES OF COMMUNICATION (LOCS) WERE DISCUSSED.

2. MINISTER S0GAARD RELATED THAT HE TALKED WITH THE PM ON THE
SUBJECT AND THE LATTER AGREED TO MOVE FORWARD IN A POSITIVE
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MANNER. IN THIS REGARD, MINISTER S0GAARD WILL STRESS THE GREAT
PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN ATTAINED IN THE SHORT SIX WEEKS SINCE
THE PM'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY IN THE NEG-
OTIATIONS OF THE BILATERAL COB. THE TECHNICAL AGREEMENT ON
THE COB IS IN THE FINAL STAGES WITH ONLY ONE OR TWO MINOR
POINTS OUTSTANDING. DURING A MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW,
WE EXPECT THESE DIFFERENCES TO BE RESOLVED, THEREBY PERMIT-

TING THE AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED.

3. THERE HAS BEEN RENEWED DANISH EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO COMPLETE THE LOC TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND PROGRESS IS BEING MADE. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT EXPECT AS RAPID A RESULT AS ON THE COB NEGOTIATIONS. OUR ESTIMATE IS THAT THE DANISH SIDE WILL NOT CONCLUDE A TECHNICAL AGREEMENT BEFORE 6-8 MONTHS.

4. I WAS UNABLE TO SAY WHAT SPECIFIC SUBJECTS WOULD BE RAISED BY THE U.S. SIDE. HOWEVER, I SUGGESTED THAT THE AWACS QUESTION COULD ARISE. MINISTER SOGAARD WAS INFORMED THAT WHEN WE RECEIVED INFORMATION ON OTHER POSSIBLE U.S. TOPICS OF CONVERSATION, THESE WILL BE PASSED ON TO HIM.

5. I AGAIN EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF HANDLING THE EXPECTED DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE ER/RB WEAPON IN A WAY TO LIMIT ADVERSE PUBLICITY IN THE PRESS. HE ASSURED ME THAT THE DANES WILL TRY TO COPE WITH DEMONSTRATORS IN A WAY TO AVOID HARSH CONFRONTATION. SOGAARD STRESSED, HOWEVER, THE DANISH GOVERNMENT OBVIOUSLY HAS NO CONTROL OVER HOW THE MEDIA WILL REPORT ON THESE DEMONSTRATIONS.

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